

Introductory Remarks

John O'Reilly
Chairman, NICC

Welcome

And thank you . . .

- For coming today, for all you do for NICC - and thereby for telecommunications and society in general in the UK
- Given the times we are in I thought a brief review in order

NICCC – the story so far

But first, some pre-history

1981: British Telecommunications Act

Formal separation of British Telecom from Post Office; steps to introduce competition; loss of monopoly to supply CPE; Secretary of State given powers to award licences to other operators; Mercury Communications Ltd formed (C&W, Barclays, BP)

1982: Mercury licenced as main competitor to British Telecom

Government announced sale of up to 50.2% of British Telecom to the public

1984: Privatisation in UK (*and divestiture in USA under MFG*)

Transfer of British Telecom to British Telecommunications plc effected
OfTel established as Telecommunications regulator

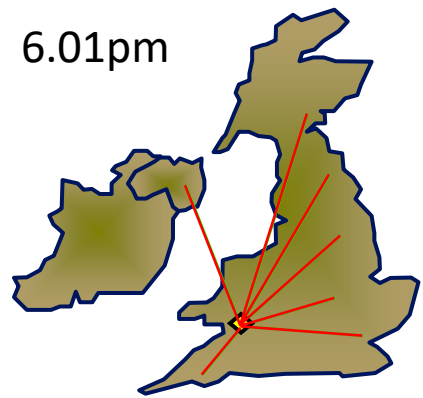
1990/91 '*Competition and Choice: Telecommunications Policy for the 1990s*'

Duopoly Review – wider competition, NICCC formed

Tina Turner 1986/87 Tour



BT Global Network Management Centre
Oswestry

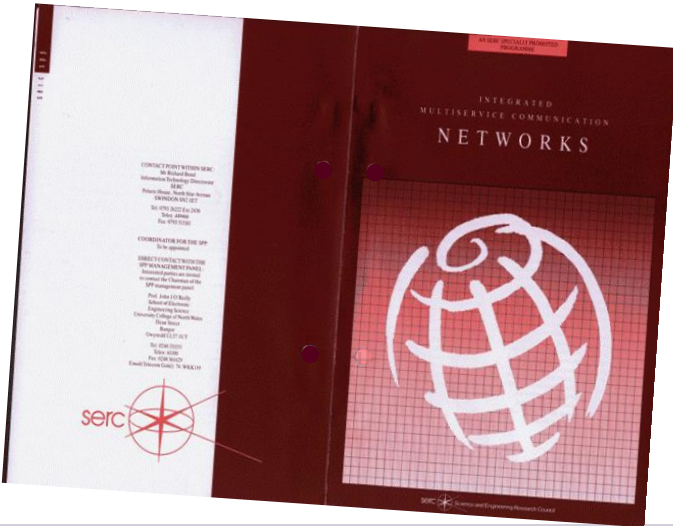
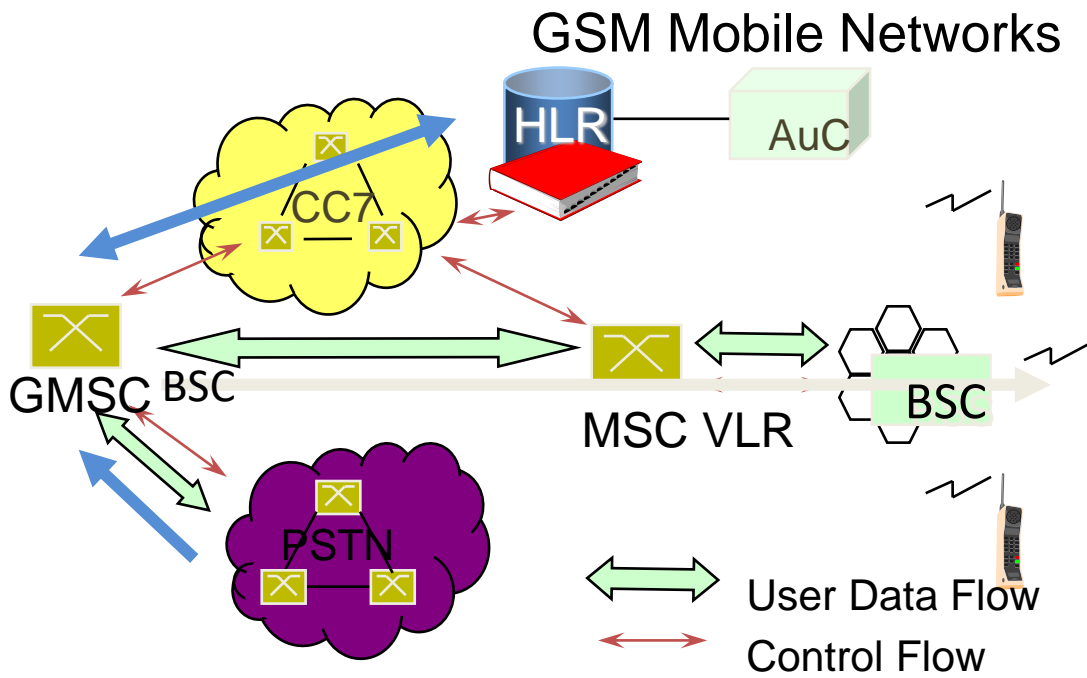
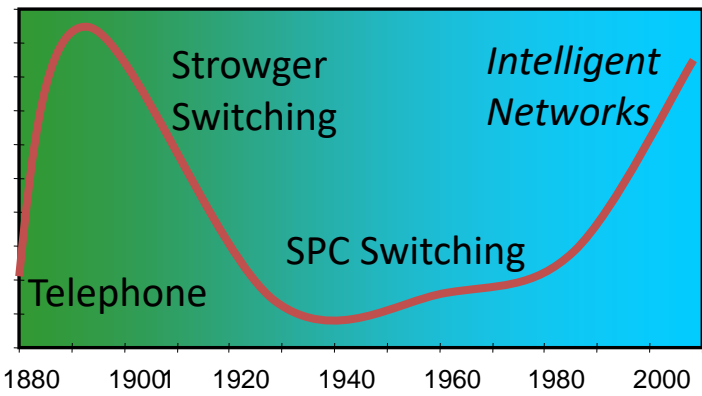


In first 15 minutes:
50 successful calls
200,000 lost calls!

Pepsi Promotion: 200 free tickets to Sunday's concert at Woburn Abbey
Call between 6pm and 7 pm on Tuesday: 0272 2?472?
(using a Pepsi Can bar code to complete the number)



Network 'Intelligence'



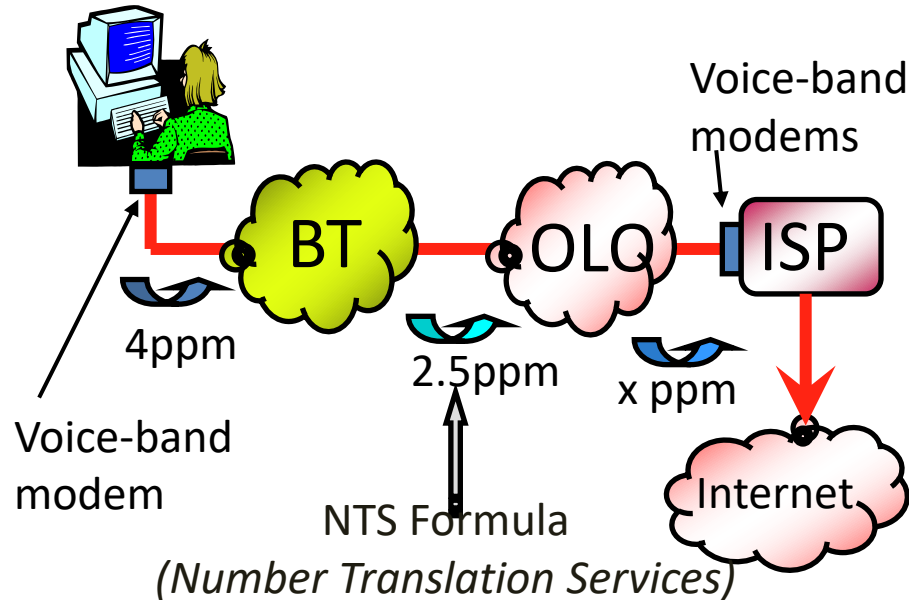
SERC Integrated Multiservice Communication Networks Programme (Commenced 1988)



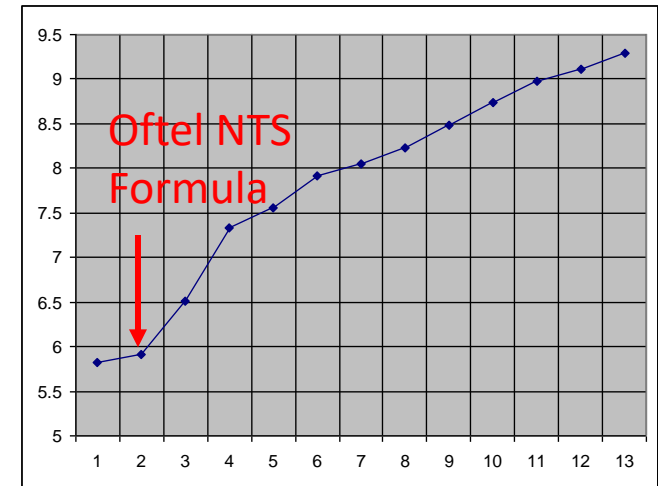
Network Interfaces Coordination Committee

- The 1991 white paper recognised that the increase in CPs would call for more formal arrangements for interworking
- This was implemented by Oftel with the formation of NICC
- It brought together a diversity of interested parties:
 - BT, Other Network Operators, Service Providers, Equipment Suppliers, TMA, TUA)
 - an independent chairman (Dr David Leakey, then recently retired as BT Chief Scientist)
 - Oftel's Technical Director and colleagues.
- The change of name to Network Interoperability Consultative Committee came a few years later

Calls to the Internet in the UK circa 2000



Log call volume with time



- Internet traffic ~25%, doubling every 10 months; within 2 years would consume 100% capacity of core switches; un-metered (FRIACO) would increase call durations ~x4

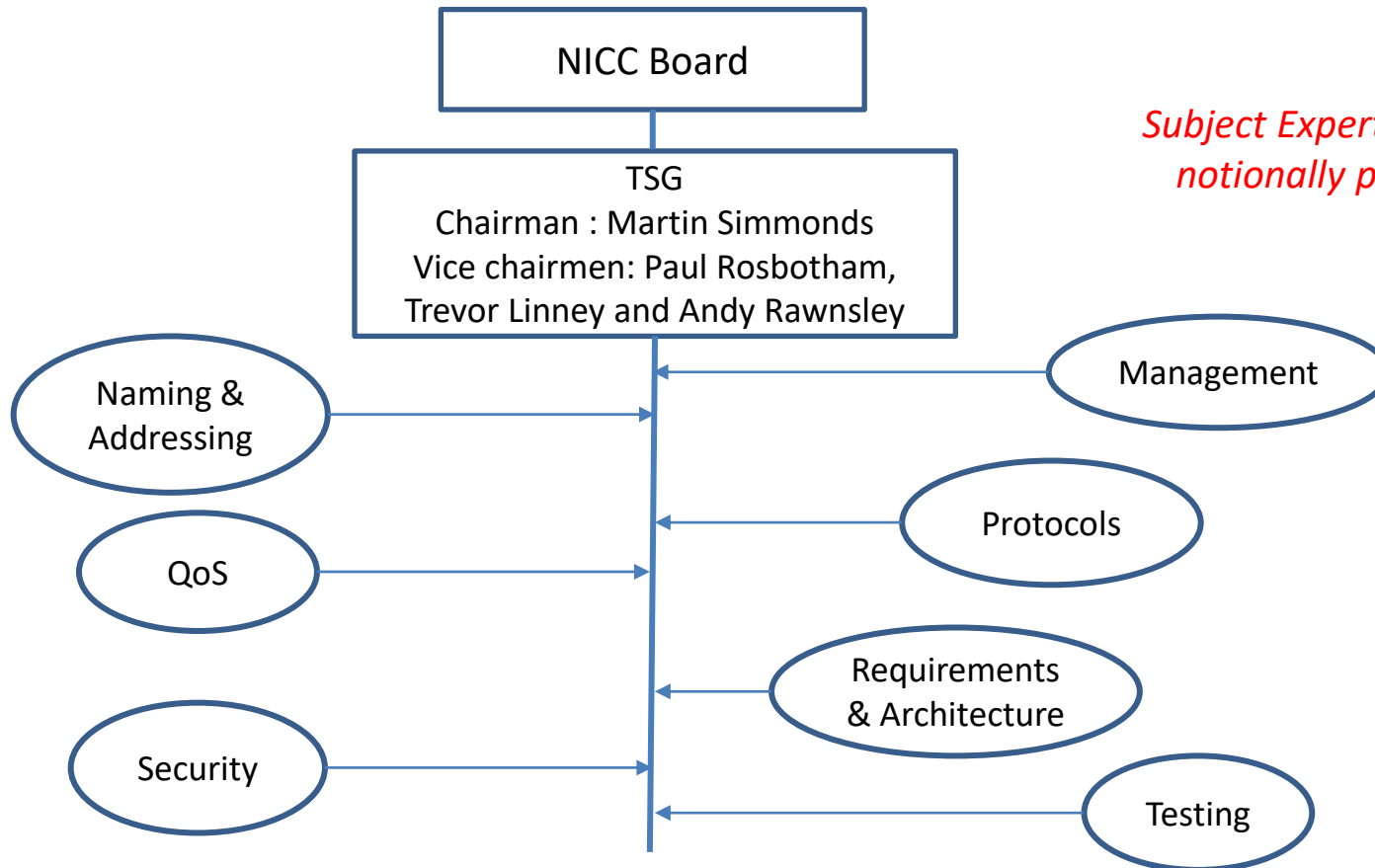
Work by Industry and Oftel resolved to avoid core network overload

From Circa 2000 to today?

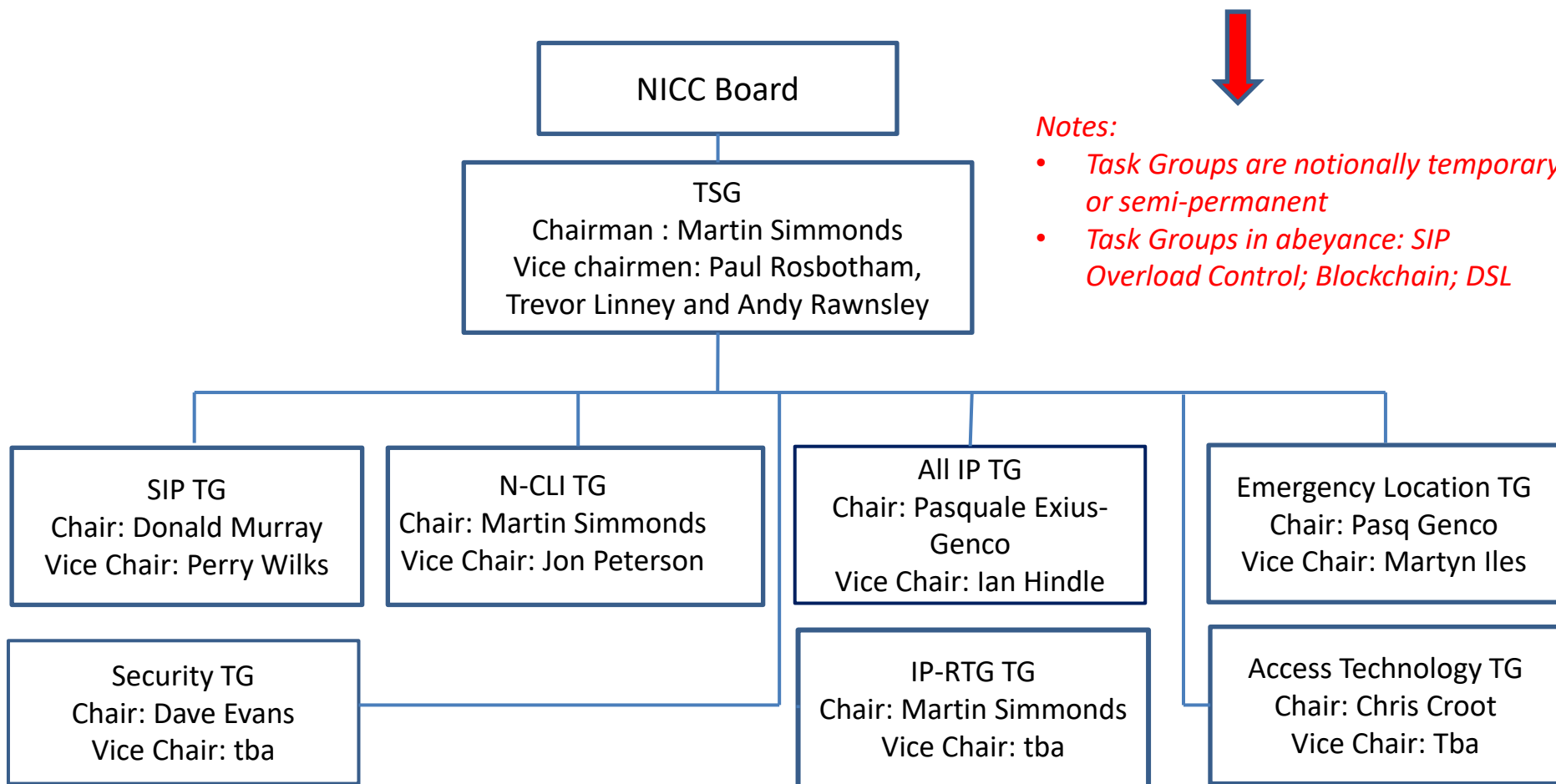
- Number Translation Service & NTS Formula
- Rapid growth in Internet traffic on PSTN
- Local Loop Unbundling and deployment of ADSL Technologies
- Access Network Frequency Plan
- Growing deployment IP networks carrying voice and data
- Need for interworking between TDM and IP networks
- From Oftel to Ofcom; NICC to NICC (Standards) Ltd
- Widespread roll out of Broadband networking
- **Increasing need for professionals with mix of traditional telecom and Internet knowledge/skills**


Preparing for so-called 'PSTN Switch Off'

NICC/TSG STRUCTURE (1 of 2) – Subject Expert Roles



NICC/TSG STRUCTURE (2 of 2) – Task Groups





Thank You